CLAIMS

1. A method of using a rock breaking cartridge which includes the steps of placing the cartridge in a hole in a body of rock and activating a stemming device which is in or on the cartridge.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the cartridge includes a tubular body and at least a portion of the tubular body is frictionally engaged with the wall of the hole when the stemming device is activated.

3. A method according to claim 2 which includes the step of weakening the tubular body to facilitate expansion thereof by the stemming device.

4. A method according to claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the stemming device is activated on one side by the manual application of force and when a propellant inside the cartridge is ignited the stemming device as a result of pressure which is generated inside the tubular body is activated from a second opposing side.

5. A rock breaking cartridge which includes a tubular body, propellant inside the tubular body, and a stemming device in or on the tubular body.

6. A rock breaking cartridge according to claim 5 wherein the propellant is located in an enclosure which is inside the tubular body and the stemming device is separated from the enclosure at least by suitable filler.

7. A rock breaking cartridge according to claim 5 wherein the stemming device includes a cap, inside the tubular body, which forms part of an enclosure for

the propellant, and a component, inside the tubular body, the cap and the component having relatively inclined mating surfaces which are relatively movable thereby to cause a portion of the tubular body to expand radially.

8. A rock breaking cartridge which includes a tubular body, an enclosure which is defined inside the tubular body by means of first and second caps which are positioned in a bore of the tubular body, a propellant inside the enclosure, a stemming device which is positioned inside the tubular body and which, upon activation, expands a portion of the tubular body in a radial sense, the stemming device being spaced from the enclosure, and a filler inside the tubular body between the enclosure and the stemming device.

9. A rock breaking cartridge according to claim 8 wherein the stemming device includes components with relatively inclined surfaces which are relatively movable thereby to cause a portion of the tubular body in which the stemming device is located to expand radially.

10. A rock breaking cartridge according to claim 9 wherein the tubular body is weakened to facilitate expansion thereof by the stemming device.

11. A rock breaking cartridge according to claim 10 wherein the tubular body is split at least in a longitudinal sense thereby to define at least one portion of the tubular body which is readily expansible in a radial sense upon activation of the stemming device.

12. A rock breaking cartridge which includes a tubular body, spaced inner and outer caps inside the tubular body, a propellant inside the body between the

caps, a radially expansible stemming device inside the body spaced from the inner cap, and a filler between the inner cap and the stemming device.